

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT: UN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (UNIS)

1. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS UNIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL MEET EVENING AUGUST 22 TO CONSIDER FOUR PROPOSALS HAVING FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR UN. DEPARTMENT STRONGLY OPPOSES ALL PROPOSALS, AS FOLLOWS:

2. INCREASE IN UN EDUCATION GRANT MAXIMUM FROM \$1,500 TO \$2,000 PER ANNUN. ICSAB AT JULY 1974 MEETING CONSIDERED AND DID NOT CONCUR IN PROPOSED INCREASE. DATA SUBMITTED BY ACC TO ICSAB SHOWED SCHOOL COSTS, INCLUDING UNIS, IN HEADQUARTERS CITIES WERE BELOW LEVEL WHICH WOULD QUALIFY STAFF FOR MAXIMUM GRANT IF INCREASE APPROVED. WE NOTE GRANT WAS INCREASED BY 50 PERCENT TO \$1,500 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1973. BASIC PRINCIPLE UNDERLYING GRANT SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1946 HAS BEEN THAT UN SHOULD HELP EXPATRIATE STAFF MEET EXTRA COSTS THEY FACE IN PROVIDING FOR THEIR DEPENDENT CHILDREN AN EDUCATION WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM ESSENTIALLY TO BE ASSIMILATED IN HOME COUNTRY; PURPOSE IS NOT TO RELIEVE PAYMENT OF NORMAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN EDUCATING CHILDREN, BUT TO ASSIST INTER-
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NATIONALLY RECRUITED STAFF IN MEETING EXTRA EXPENSE

ARISING SOLELY OUT OF EXPATRIATION IN SERVICE OF UN.

GIVEN COSTS TO PARENTS OF EDUCATING CHILDREN IN U.S. PUBLIC SCHOOLS (SOME TWO-THIRDS OF MOST LOCAL JURISDICTION BUDGETS GO TO SUPPORT SCHOOL SYSTEM IN ADDITION TO DIRECT COSTS TO PARENTS) WE VIEW 75 PERCENT REIMBURSEMENT IN UN SYSTEM AS GENEROUS.

3. PAYMENT OF EDUCATION GRANT FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN ALL UN STAFF, BOTH PROFESSIONAL AND GS, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS OF CITIZENS OF HOST COUNTRY. PROPOSAL WOULD CHANGE BASIC CONCEPT ON WHICH EDUCATION GRANT JUSTIFIED. U.S. COULD NOT ACCEPT UN POLICY UNDER WHICH SUBSIDY TO ATTEND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IS PAID TO NATIONALS OF HOST COUNTRY.

4. UN APPROPRIATION OF \$1.6 MILLION FOR UNIS CONSTRUCTION DEFICIT. U.S. FOUNDATIONS PROVIDED \$12.9 MILLION TOWARDS CONSTRUCTION OF UNIS. INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS OF THOSE GRANTS ACCORDING UN SOURCES TOTALLED \$2.6 MILLION THROUGH END OF 1972. CONSTRUCTION COSTS REPORTED AS \$14.4 MILLION OR \$1.1 MILLION LESS THAN GRANTS AND INVESTMENT INCOME. IF GRANTS AND INVESTMENT INCOME USED FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN CONSTRUCTION COSTS WE NOT PERSUADED UN BUDGET SHOULD MAKE UP DEFICIT. EDUCATION COSTS IN U.S. INSTITUTIONS ARE SOARING AND ARE BEING MET IN LARGE MEASURE BY INCREASED TUITION. AN ALTERNATIVE AVAILABLE TO UNIS IN MAKING UP DEFICIT, IN ADDITION TO REINVIGORATION OF ITS OWN FUND RAISING EFFORTS, IS INCREASING TUITION.

5. UN APPROPRIATION OF \$2 MILLION IN INSTALLMENTS FOR UNIS DEVELOPMENT FUND. THE U.S. SUPPORTED THE 1969 UNGA RES. (2612 XXIV) WHICH APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE CONTRIBUTION OF \$2 MILLION TO BE PAID OVER A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANNUAL SUBVENTIONS WOULD BE PHASED OUT OF THE UN BUDGET. THE \$2 MILLION CONTRIBUTION HAS BEEN MADE AND THE SUBVENTION DROPPED FROM THE BUDGET. WE CANNOT SEE STARTING THE CYCLE ALL OVER AGAIN. A MORE REALISTIC APPROACH WOULD

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BE TO RAISE TUITION RATES, ESPECIALLY FOR NON-UN CHILDREN, CUT BACK ON BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESTRICT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN OF UN STAFF ONLY. UNIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT DATED MAY 10, 1974 (PAGE 9) SHOWS 50.6 PERCENT OF BURSARIES FOR 1973/74 WERE GRANTED TO NON-SECRETARIAT CHILDREN. KISSINGER

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